

# MEISSNER SNO-PARK NORDIC SKIING AND SNOWSHOEING

**Virginia Meissner Sno-park** was named in memory of Virginia Meissner and her contributions to Nordic skiing in Central Oregon.

Access to the Meissner Sno-park is by the Cascade Lakes Highway, 14 miles west of Bend. Sno-Park permits are required from November 15 to April 30. Dogs are NOT allowed.

## **Currant Way**

**1.1 miles** (easiest, more difficult)

Heading west from the trailhead, the trail moves over undulating terrain through grand fir and small stands of lodgepole and ponderosa – makes a great loop of 1.9 miles by returning on Tangent.

## **Gentian**

**1.2 miles** (more difficult, most difficult)

Gentian is accessed off the north Tangent trail and has wonderful views of South Sister, Broken Top and Tumalo Mtn. This trail moves side to side and has some swooping downhill corners.

## **Lodgepole Loops**

**1.4 miles** (easiest)

Beginning east of the trailhead, this is a great trail for beginners with flat to rolling terrain with gentle uphill and downhill slopes.

## **Lupine**

**0.3 miles** (easiest)

Provides alternate access to and from Meissner Shelter. Steep near the Shelter.

## **Manzanita**

**0.9 miles** (easiest)

Provides access to Meissner Shelter and is one of the most popular trails with families and beginners. It winds through open country with wonderful mountain views.

## **Mistletoe**

**0.4 miles** (easiest)

Makes for a fun downhill run from the Meissner shelter back to Tangent.

## **Paintbrush Loop**

**1.4 miles** (more difficult, most difficult)

Provides access to the Shooting Star shelter.

## **Paintbrush/Columbine**

**1.5 miles** (easiest)

Moderate length ski to some great views at the cinder pit. One must use about 3 miles of Tangent Loop and Wednesdays to get to Paintbrush.

## **Pine Drops**

**1.7 miles** (easiest, most difficult)

This trail begins just west of the pole barn on Tangent and heads north through rolling terrain and then down east to intersect with Snowbush.

## **Ponderosa**

**3.6 miles** (more difficult)

Whether classic or skating, you will love the challenging terrain of this trail as it moves through stands of old growth ponderosa and grand fir.

## **Snowbush**

**1.6 miles** (easiest, more difficult)

Snowbush is an old road to the north of, and below Meissner Ridge. Usually only groomed for classic, it makes a great downhill run when skied from north to south.

## **Tangent Loop**

**5.5 miles** (easiest, more difficult)

Tangent serves as a “north-south corridor” for Meissner and provides access to the Swampy area. Great mountain views are enjoyed on the northern sections of the trail.

## **Wednesdays**

**4 miles** (easiest, more difficult)

Provides a non-groomed trail experience.

## **Wild Strawberry**

**1.6 miles** (most difficult)

This is the most expert trail on the Meissner system. If you love steep downhill drops and steep climbs this trail is for you.

## **Tangent Alternative**

**0.3 miles** (easiest)

Starting at the bottom of “Crybaby Hill,” the trail provides beginners an easy way up and down as it easily traverses the hill.

## **Meissner Snowshoe Loops**

**3.2 miles** (easiest, more difficult)

A 3 ¼ mile loop trail, with a 1 ¾ mile short loop option. These trails are designed for

snowshoers only and marked with blue diamonds with a yellow snowshoer symbol in the center. If snowshoers use regular ski trails, please stay off the set ski tracks.

## **Nordeen Snowshoe Tie**

**1 mile** (more difficult, most difficult)

Connects Meissner Sno-Park to Nordeen shelter, then on to the Snowshoe Long Loop on the Swampy Trail system. The one way distance between Meissner and Swampy Sno-Parks is approximately 2.5 miles.

## **Trail Grooming**

The Tumalo Langlauf Club grooms up to 38 kilometers for both skating and classical technique. Trails are groomed four days per week on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday from December 1 – March 31. Check the Snow Phone or website for the latest grooming report: 541.585.2289 or <http://www.tumalolanglauf.com> Please beware that grooming equipment and personnel may be on these trails during these periods and other unscheduled times.

## **Shelters**

Nordic Trails and shelters in this area are built and maintained by volunteers from the Tumalo Langlauf Club, Central Oregon Nordic Club and the Oregon National Guard in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service. Your cooperation is essential to keep these facilities available for public use. Please use wood sparingly, pack out all trash, discourage vandalism and **no overnight camping within 300 ft. of shelters.**

## **Emergency 9-1-1**

Deschutes non-emergency 541-693-6911  
Deschutes National Forest Recreation Information & Lost and Found 541-383-4000

## **NORDIC SKI/SNOWSHOE TRAIL ETIQUETTE**

1. Match your abilities and experience with your trip plans.
2. Do not snowshoe or walk over a ski track.
3. Keep to the right when meeting another skier. When stopped, do not block the trail.
4. Yield the right of way to the descending skier.
5. If an accident occurs, everyone should render necessary assistance. Witnesses should establish their identities.
6. Respect the rights of all winter users. Do not interfere with or harass others. People may judge all skiers or snowmobilers by one individual's actions.
7. Do not litter. If you pack it in, pack it out.
8. Please respect areas closed to dogs. If you visit areas open to dogs, follow canine courtesy.
9. Shelter policy – Day Use only. No overnight camping - overnight use exhausts firewood rapidly.
10. Ski or snowshoe at your own risk!

This map produced and printed in cooperation between the Tumalo Langlauf Club (Website: <http://www.tumalolanglauf.com>) and the Deschutes National Forest. Nordic trails in this area are built and maintained by volunteers from TLC, CONC and Deschutes National Forest and trails groomed by TLC all in cooperation with Deschutes National Forest \* Bend-Fort Rock Ranger District (Website: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/centraloregon>)

